
First Steps Facilitator: Harriet Foiles**Regional LICC status: July 2003***Active LICCs: 10**Inactive LICCs: 2**LICCs in development: 0***Primary Outcomes of LICCs:**

1. Public awareness and provider recruitment
2. Develop effective methods of receiving input from families
3. Child Find
4. Increase collaboration among agencies
5. Continue support between the LICC and SPOE
6. Pursue grant funding for projects
7. Quality assurance of services

Summary of activities and accomplishments:

- Lincoln Co. – Building a good relationship with the SPOE, keeping in touch with Intake Specialist about referrals; have renewed the proposal with Children's Trust Fund for funding.
- Randolph Co. – Discussed results of needs assessment and developed two primary goals to work on at this time.
- Montgomery Co. – Will have First Steps and local LICC brochure available at a booth for County Fair ; still recruiting members.
- Boone Co. – Planning outreach activities with local health care providers; participated in a variety of First Steps Community Awareness activities including a resource fair at the local high school, presented First Steps information at an early childhood special education parent meeting, and inserted First Steps ad in PTA newsletters for Columbia Public Schools.
- St. Charles Co. – Legislative committee continues to meet and made a presentation to Senate Bill 40 Board for grant; committees were formed and will begin to meet in addition to regular LICC meeting.
- Northeast LICC – Had a booth at the Health Fair in Adair County with a child activity and distribution of brochures; flyers on First Steps and the new contact number have been distributed in all seven counties.
- Cooper/Howard Cos. - Have elected officers and set goals with child find having first priority; will be making physician packets to inform about First Steps and the LICC; other goals include member recruitment and public awareness. They will attend local fairs and work with the schools to promote First Steps and LICC.
- Jefferson Co. – Purchased child find pens, magnets, bubbles and bandaid dispensers to use at local fairs and for public awareness.

Summary of identified needs or concerns:

- Public awareness of First Steps
- Need for service coordinators in Montgomery County
- Need for developmental therapists, O & M specialists, audiologists, and physicians in Boone County.
- Need for forms training
- Limited LICC participation by families
- Need for providers in Cooper/Howard
- Shortage of speech therapists and developmental therapists in Jefferson County
- Loss of mileage and cutback in funds for group therapy has caused a lead agency in Jefferson County to close its early childhood program

Key points and significant information to provide SICC:

1. A participating agency in Lincoln Co. LICC has written a First Steps Public Awareness Plan and will be working to educate families, healthcare providers, and the community. The plan includes speaking engagements, distribution of brochures and visits to healthcare providers.
2. LICCs continue to keep open working communication with the SPOEs.
3. Independent service coordinators are meeting monthly to share information and expertise.
4. Public awareness of First Steps is still very limited.
5. Lack of liability insurance prohibits therapists from becoming independent providers.